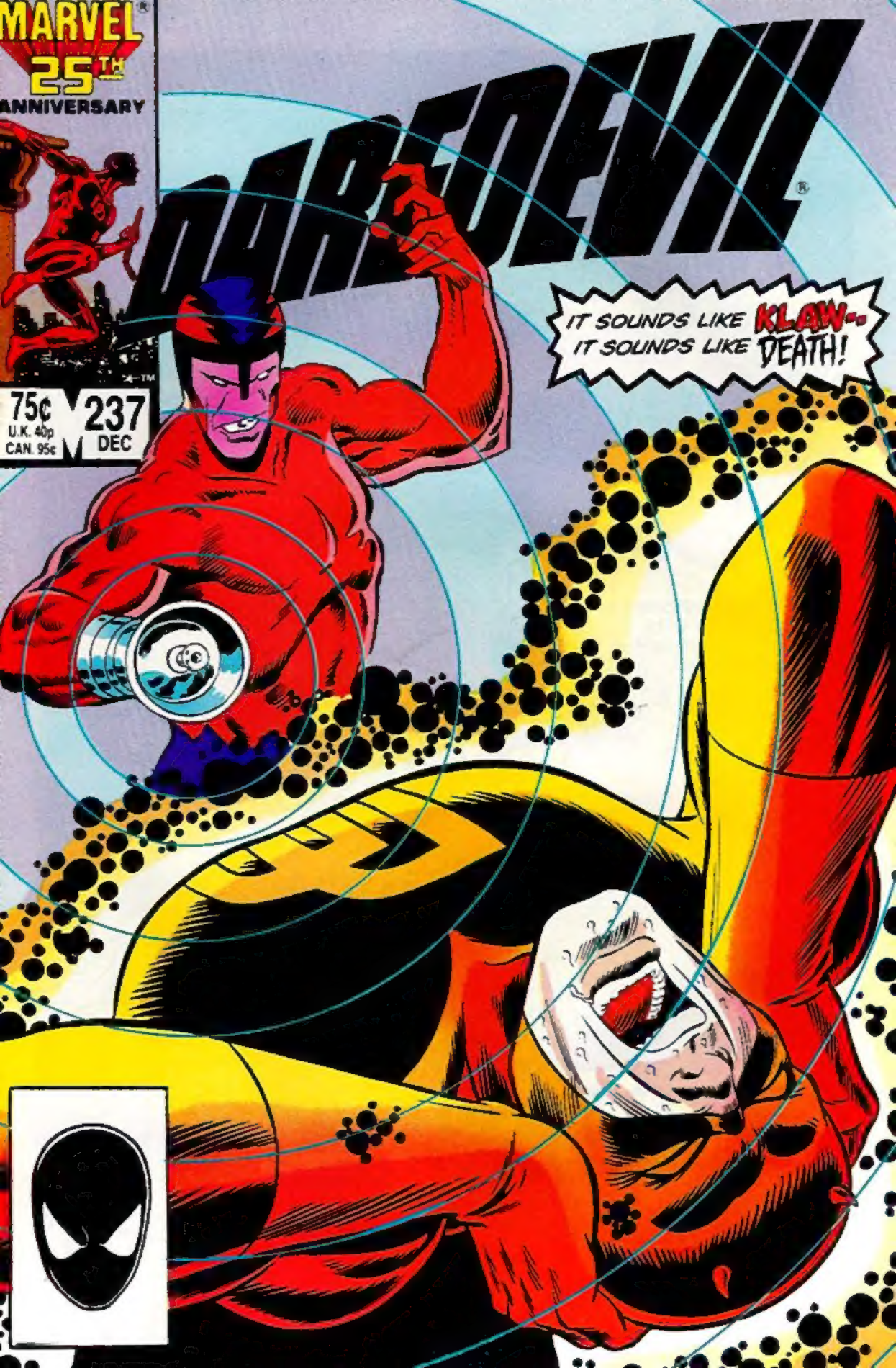
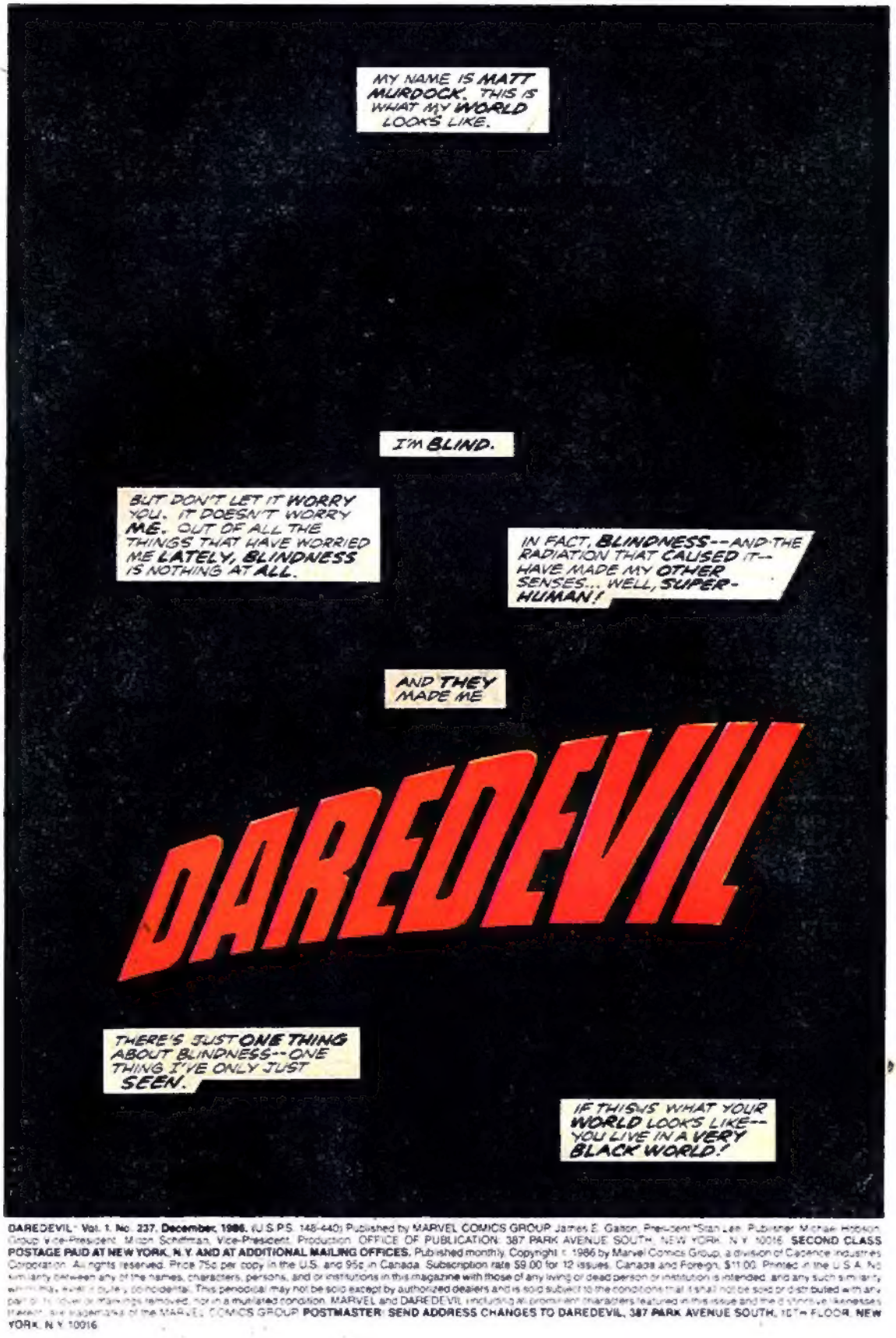
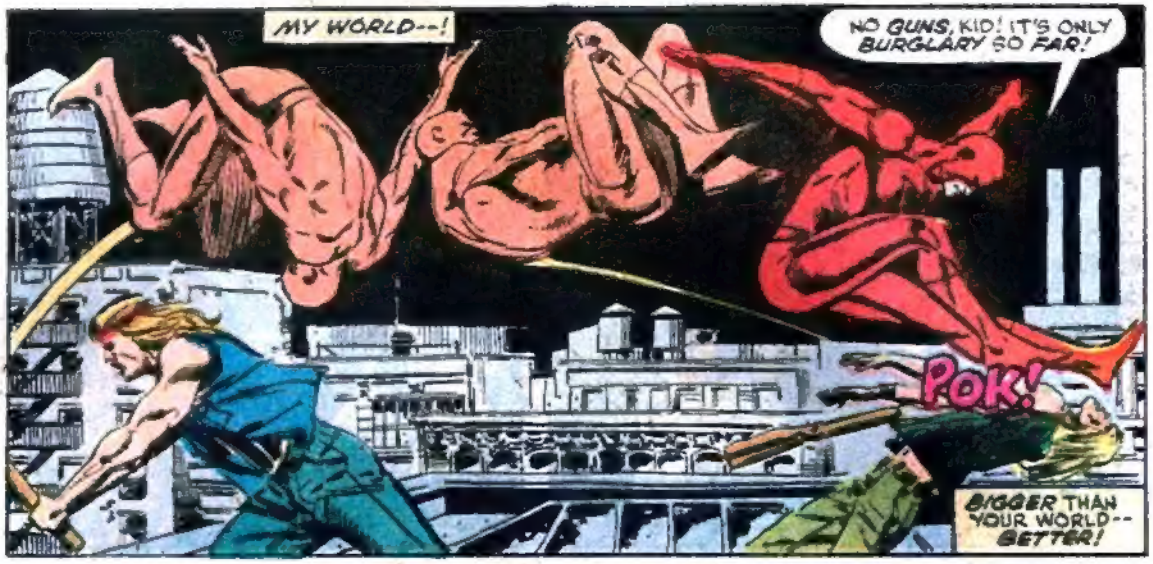

MARVEL
25TH
ANNIVERSARY
DAREDEVIL
IT SOUNDS LIKE KLAW--
IT SOUNDS LIKE DEATH!
75¢
U.K. 40p
CAN. 95¢
237
DEC

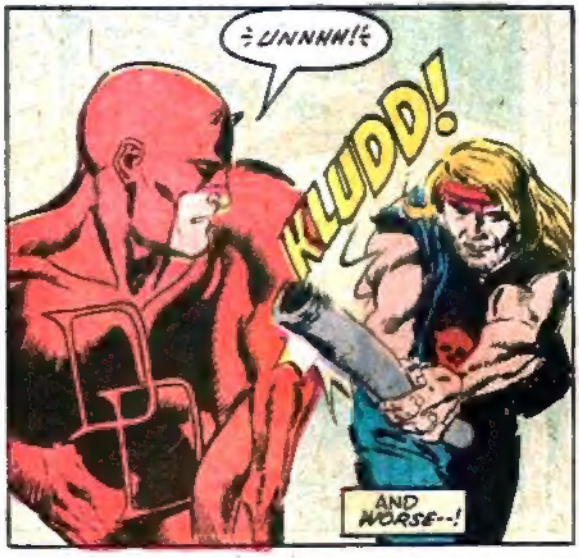


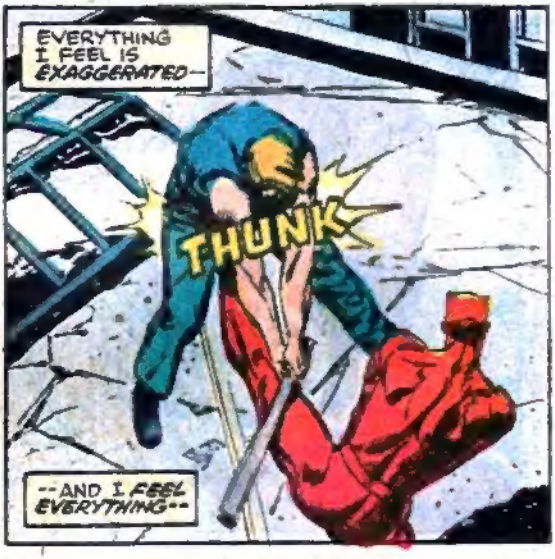
DAREDEVIL Vol. 1, No. 237, **December, 1986.** (U.S.P.S. 148-440) Published by MARVEL COMICS GROUP. James E. Galton, President. Stan Lee, Publisher. Michael Hobson, Group Vice-President. Milton Schiffman, Vice-President, Production. OFFICE OF PUBLICATION: 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. **SECOND CLASS POSTAGE PAID AT NEW YORK, N.Y. AND AT ADDITIONAL MAILING OFFICES.** Published monthly. Copyright © 1986 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation. All rights reserved. Price 75¢ per copy in the U.S. and 95¢ in Canada. Subscription rate $9.00 for 12 issues. Canada and Foreign, $11.00. Printed in the U.S.A. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the conditions that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. MARVEL and DAREDEVIL (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) and all indicia of the MARVEL COMICS GROUP. **POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO DAREDEVIL, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, 10TH FLOOR, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016**

conteXt!

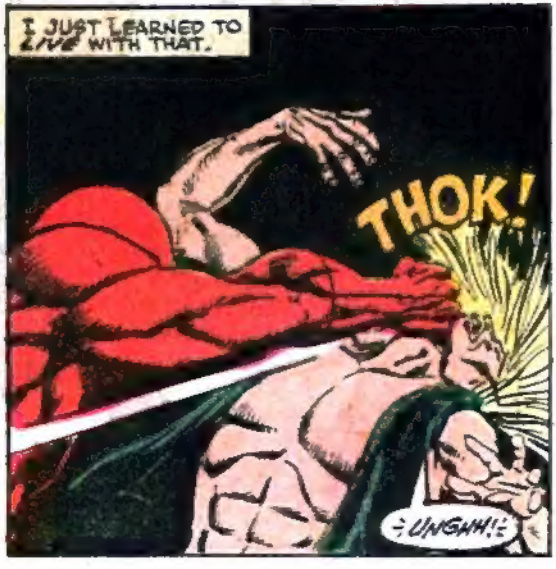
THANK GOD MY WORLD FEELS LIKE THIS!
IT'S DAREDEVIL! HE'S FOUND US!
KRAK!
STAN LEE PRESENTS:
JOHN HARKNESS * Story
LOUIS WILLIAMS * Pencils
WILLIAMSON/BULANADI * Inks
JOE ROSEN * Letters
MAX SCHEELE * Colors
RALPH MACCHIO * Editor
JIM SHOOTER * Ed. in Chief
WASTE HIM, JERZO!

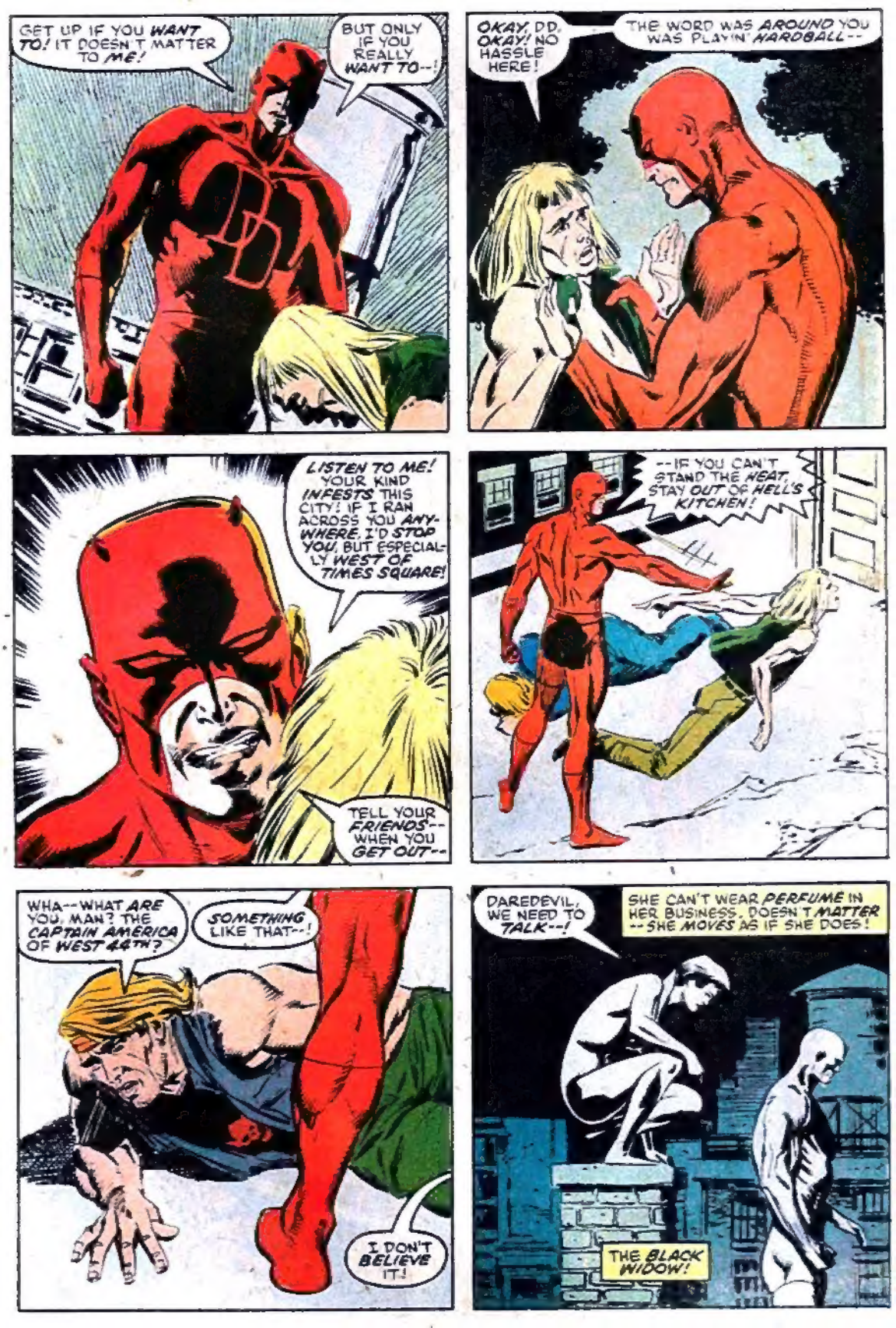

MY WORLD--!
NO GUNS, KID! IT'S ONLY BURGLARY SO FAR!
POK!
BIGGER THAN YOUR WORLD-- BETTER!


÷UNNNH!÷
KLUDD!
AND WORSE--!


EVERYTHING I FEEL IS EXAGGERATED--
THUNK
--AND I FEEL EVERYTHING--

--HIS PAIN AS CLEAR AS MY OWN!
EEEEEEE

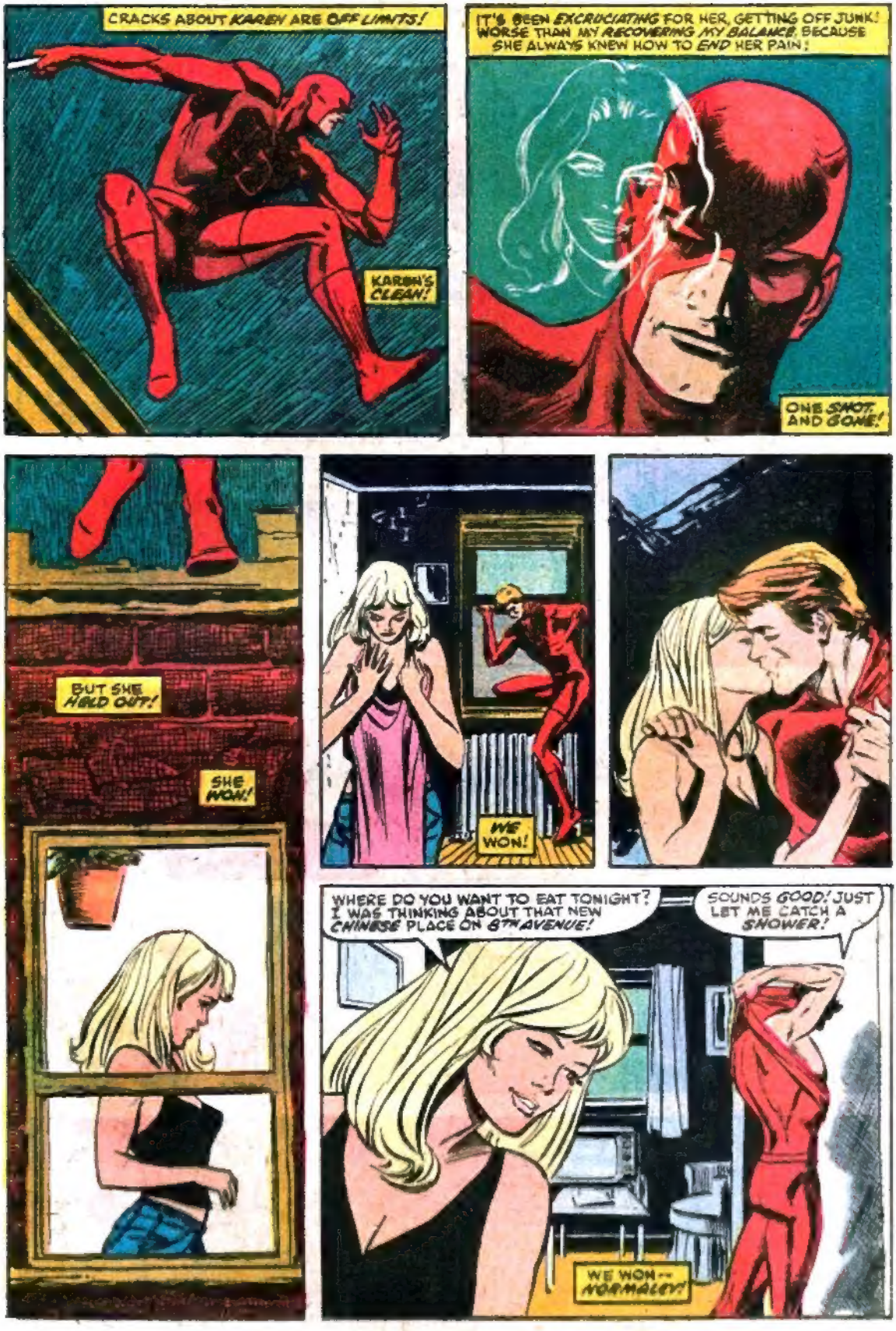

I JUST LEARNED TO LIVE WITH THAT.
THOK!
÷UNGHH!÷

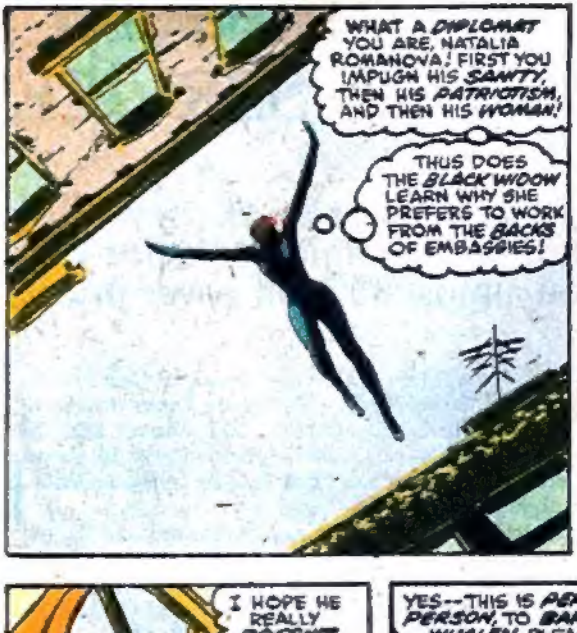

GET UP IF YOU WANT TO! IT DOESN'T MATTER TO ME!
BUT ONLY IF YOU REALLY WANT TO--!
OKAY, DD, OKAY! NO HASSLE HERE!
THE WORD WAS AROUND YOU WAS PLAYIN' HARDBALL--
LISTEN TO ME! YOUR KIND INFESTS THIS CITY! IF I RAN ACROSS YOU ANYWHERE, I'D STOP YOU, BUT ESPECIALLY WEST OF TIMES SQUARE!
TELL YOUR FRIENDS-- WHEN YOU GET OUT--
--IF YOU CAN'T STAND THE HEAT, STAY OUT OF HELL'S KITCHEN!
WHA--WHAT ARE YOU, MAN? THE CAPTAIN AMERICA OF WEST 44TH?
SOMETHING LIKE THAT--!
I DON'T BELIEVE IT!
DAREDEVIL, WE NEED TO TALK--!
SHE CAN'T WEAR PERFUME IN HER BUSINESS, DOESN'T MATTER --SHE MOVES AS IF SHE DOES!
THE BLACK WIDOW!

THE KIDS ARE EASILY DISPOSED OF. THEY'LL BE BACK ON THE STREETS IN NO TIME.
BUT MAYBE NOT MY STREETS!
...NOW, WHAT DID YOU WANT TO TALK ABOUT, TASHA?
I DIDN'T EXPECT TO SEE YOU SO SOON AFTER THE HAZZARD AFFAIR.
YOU KNOW ME, MATT-- I ALWAYS BOUNCE BACK.
IT'S YOU I WAS WORRIED ABOUT. I KNOW YOU DON'T LIKE TALKING ABOUT IT, BUT THINGS I HEARD...
WHAT DID YOU HEAR?
DISBARMENT--! DEGRADATION--!
A BREAKDOWN...!
THAT HAPPENED TO MATT MURDOCK. NOT DAREDEVIL-- SO FAR AS THE WORLD KNOWS. DAREDEVIL TURNED BRUTAL FOR A WHILE--MIGHT AWAY FOR A WHILE--BUT STUCK IT TO THE KINGPIN IN THE END.
STUCK IT TO HUM GOOD!
MATT-- YOU AND DAREDEVIL AREN'T TWO PEOPLE!
I KNOW THAT, TASHA! I'M JUST SAYING THAT THE WORLD DOESN'T!
DON'T WORRY, I'M OKAY NOW. I APPRECIATE YOUR CONCERN, BUT--
--REALLY, I WON! I DIDN'T LOSE A THING I REALLY NEEDED!

LISTEN, TASHA, I'M HAPPY NOW.
YOU WORK IN A DINER!
IT'S HONEST WORK -- AND SATISFYING TO A MAN WITH MY SENSE OF SMELL!
WHAT ARE YOU, SECRET AGENT NATASHA ROMANOVA OF STALINGRAD -- A BORN-AGAIN YUPPIE?
I SIMPLY CANNOT BELIEVE A MAN OF YOUR ACCOMPLISHMENTS CAN FIND THE CHALLENGE OF COOKING HAMBURGERS EIGHT HOURS A DAY SATISFYING!
I DO, THOUGH! AND WHEN THOSE EIGHT HOURS ARE UP, I CAN GO BACK TO MY FLAT HERE, IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD WHERE I GREW UP -- TO KAREN!
YES!
YOU NEEDN'T LOOK AT ME NOW, MATT! I WISH YOU ONLY JOY WHEN IT COMES TO KAREN PAGE!
I'VE ALWAYS KNOWN YOU TURNED TO ME ON THE REBOUND FROM HER!*
THAT'S NOT TRUE!
TRUE OR FALSE, I HAVE NO CLAIM ON YOU, ROMANTICALLY! BUT AS A FRIEND -- A FELLOW ADVENTURER --
* DD #81-124. - R.
--I'VE BROUGHT YOU A PROPOSITION! YOU AND I KNOW THE VAST MISERY CAUSED BY ILLICIT DRUGS -- AND YOU MUST KNOW OF THE DRUG-TESTING PROGRAMS INITIATED IN PROFESSIONAL SPORTS.
AS IDOLS TO TEENAGERS, THEY MUST PROVE THEMSELVES DRUG-FREE.
I KNOW ABOUT THAT.
TASHA -- ARE YOU OUT OF YOUR MIND?
WELL, A FRIEND OF MINE IN WASHINGTON HAS HAD AN EVEN BETTER IDEA! BARBARA WHALEN, THE WIFE OF THE FLORIDA SENATOR, SUGGESTS THAT SOME OF US FROM THE SPANDEX SET WHO HAVE A CERTAIN PUBLIC RECOGNITION -- IF NOT TRUE CELEBRITY STATUS -- COULD MAKE A PUBLIC STATEMENT AS WELL.
I TOLD HER I'D LEAD SUCH AN EFFORT, AND I THOUGHT -- AFTER YOUR RECENT BOUT OF BAD PUBLICITY -- YOU COULD JOIN ME!

WHAT DO YOU MEAN? I'M TRYING TO HELP--!
BUT--THE WHOLE THING IS UN-AMERICAN! UNCONSTITUTIONAL, IN MY OPINION!
THE LAW PRESUMES EVERYONE INNOCENT UNTIL PROVEN GUILTY! HAVING TO PROVE YOU'RE INNOCENT IS FLAT-OUT... WRONG! SIMPLE AS THAT!
BUT IF YOU ARE INNOCENT, WHAT DO YOU HAVE TO HIDE?
WHO CARES? THAT'S NOT THE QUESTION!
THE QUESTION IS, HOW FAR INTO ITS CITIZENS' PRIVATE LIVES CAN THE GOVERNMENT LEGITIMATELY INTRUDE?
MAYBE HAVING COME FROM A CONTROLLED SOCIETY--THE SOVIET UNION--YOU ACCEPT THINGS FROM "UPSTAIRS" TOO EASILY.
SO--THE SHORT-ORDER COOK STILL REMEMBERS THE LAW! BUT THE LAW IS AGAINST DRUG-USERS!
YOU'D CLEAN THEM OFF THESE STREETS YOU'VE CLAIMED AS YOUR OWN, WOULDN'T YOU?
I FIGHT DRUGS AMONG THE PUSHERS--NOT AMONG THE REST OF THE CITIZENRY, INDISCRIMINATELY!
NO, YOU'D LEAVE THE USERS ALONE--
--AFTER KAREN!
I DIDN'T MEAN THAT, MATT!
GOODBYE, TASHA!


CRACKS ABOUT KAREN ARE OFF LIMITS!
KAREN'S CLEAN!
IT'S BEEN EXCRUCIATING FOR HER, GETTING OFF JUNK! WORSE THAN MY RECOVERING MY BALANCE, BECAUSE SHE ALWAYS KNEW HOW TO END HER PAIN!
ONE SHOT AND GONE!
BUT SHE HELD OUT!
SHE WON!
WE WON!
WHERE DO YOU WANT TO EAT TONIGHT? I WAS THINKING ABOUT THAT NEW CHINESE PLACE ON 8TH AVENUE!
SOUNDS GOOD! JUST LET ME CATCH A SHOWER!
WE WON -- NORMALLY!


WHAT A DIPLOMAT YOU ARE, NATALIA ROMANOVA! FIRST YOU IMPUGN HIS SANITY, THEN HIS PATRIOTISM, AND THEN HIS WOMAN!
THUS DOES THE BLACK WIDOW LEARN WHY SHE PREFERS TO WORK FROM THE BACKS OF EMBASSIES!

BUT HE ALWAYS FINDS A WAY TO PROVOKE ME! ALWAYS!
WHO COULD HAVE DREAMED HE'D HAVE AN OBJECTION TO MY PLAN? I WAS TRYING TO HELP HIM!

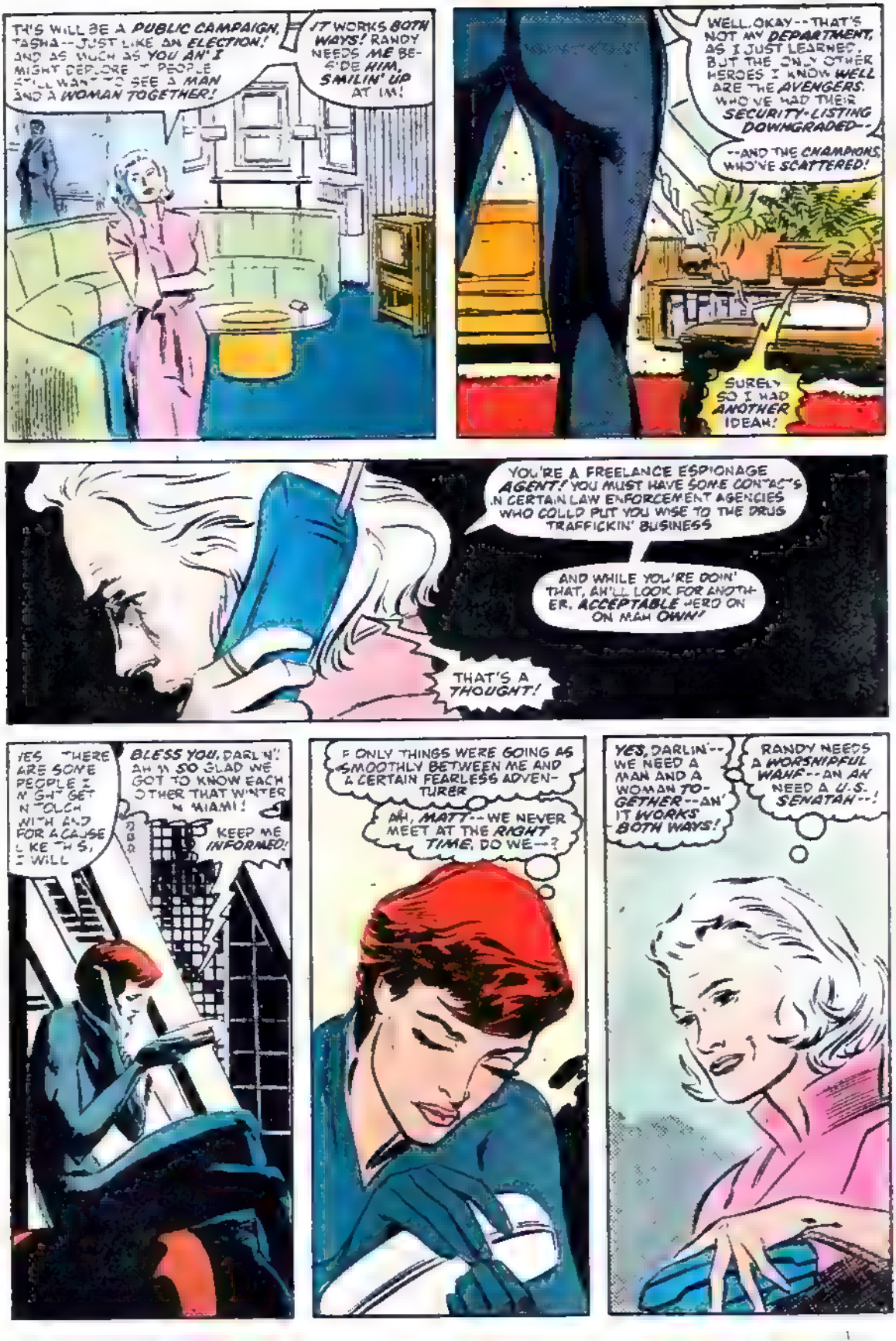
I HOPE HE REALLY DOESN'T NEED MY HELP--!

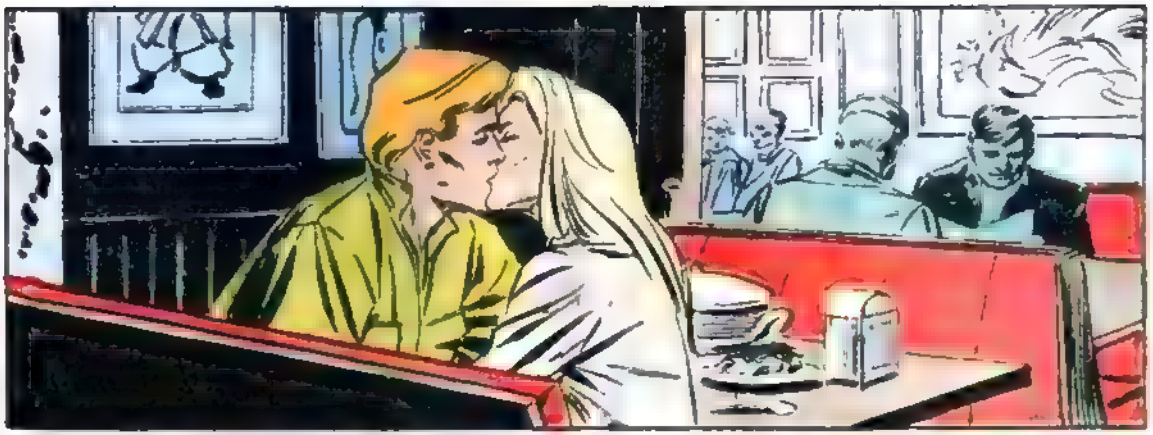
YES--THIS IS PERSON-TO-PERSON, TO BARBARA WHALEN, PLEASE.
TASHA ROMANOVA!

GEORGETOWN...
TASHA! HOW DID IT GO?
HE WHAT?
ARE YOU SERIOUS?

'FRAID SO, BARBARA! HE CALLED IT "UN-AMERICAN"!
TASHA, AH'M THE WAHF OF A UNITED STATES SENATAH, AN' RANDY TELLS ME THIS STATEMENT FROM SUPER HEROES IS ESSENTIAL! NOW DOES THAT SOUND UN-AMERICAN TO YOU?

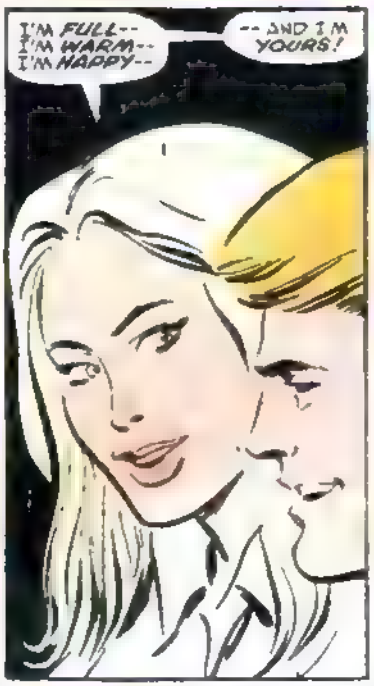
DO YOU WANT TO GO PUBLIC WITH JUST MY ENDORSEMENT?
OH, NO, DARLIN'! PLEASE DON'T MISUNDERSTAND ME, BUT I THINK WE NEED A MAN TO COMPLEMENT YOU!
WHAT?

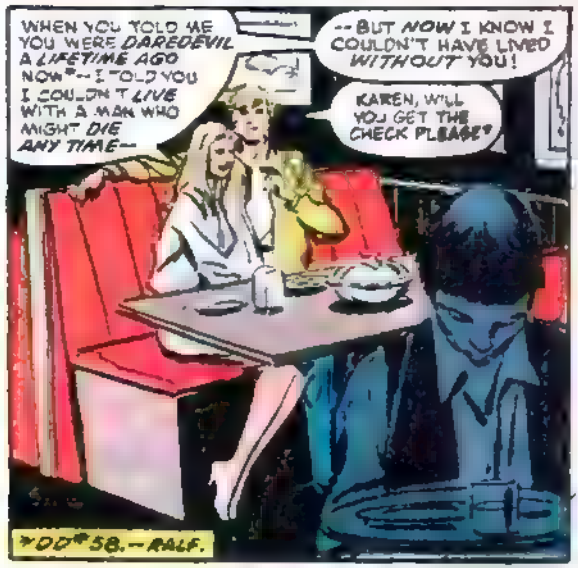

TH'S WILL BE A PUBLIC CAMPAIGN, TASHA--JUST LIKE AN ELECTION! AND AS MUCH AS YOU AN' I MIGHT DEPLORE IT, PEOPLE STILL WANT TO SEE A MAN AND A WOMAN TOGETHER!
IT WORKS BOTH WAYS! RANDY NEEDS ME BE-SIDE HIM, SMILIN' UP AT IM!
WELL, OKAY--THAT'S NOT MY DEPARTMENT, AS I JUST LEARNED. BUT THE ONLY OTHER HEROES I KNOW WELL ARE THE AVENGERS, WHO'VE HAD THEIR SECURITY-LISTING DOWNGRADED--
--AND THE CHAMPIONS, WHO'VE SCATTERED!
SURELY SO I HAD ANOTHER IDEAH!
YOU'RE A FREELANCE ESPIONAGE AGENT! YOU MUST HAVE SOME CONTACTS IN CERTAIN LAW ENFORCEMENT AGENCIES WHO COULD PUT YOU WISE TO THE DRUG TRAFFICKIN' BUSINESS
AND WHILE YOU'RE DOIN' THAT, AH'LL LOOK FOR ANOTHER ACCEPTABLE HERO ON MAH OWN!
THAT'S A THOUGHT!
YES THERE ARE SOME PEOPLE I N'GH' GET N TOUCH WITH AND FOR A CAUSE LIKE THIS, I WILL
BLESS YOU, DARL'N'! AH'M SO GLAD WE GOT TO KNOW EACH OTHER THAT WINTER IN MIAMI!
KEEP ME INFORMED!
IF ONLY THINGS WERE GOING AS SMOOTHLY BETWEEN ME AND A CERTAIN FEARLESS ADVENTURER
AH, MATT--WE NEVER MEET AT THE RIGHT TIME, DO WE--?
YES, DARLIN'--WE NEED A MAN AND A WOMAN TOGETHER--AN' IT WORKS BOTH WAYS!
RANDY NEEDS A WORSHIPFUL WAHF--AN AH NEED A U.S. SENATAH--!

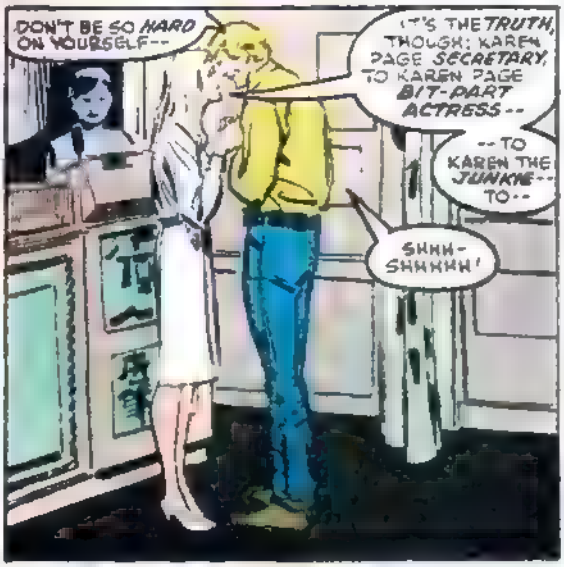


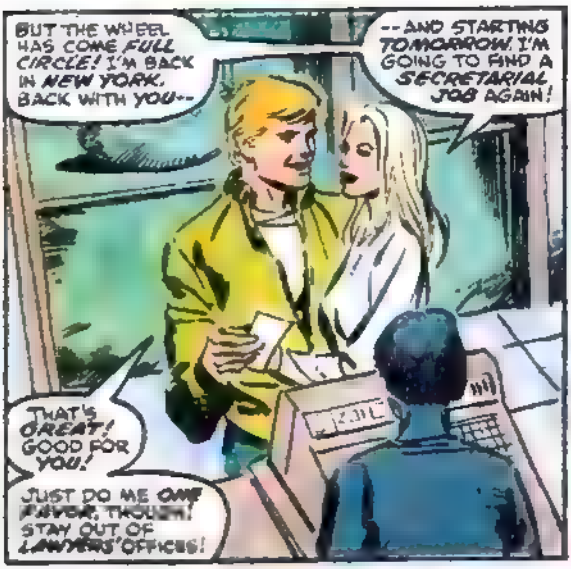
HOW'RE YOU FEELING KAREN?
FULL!
I MEANT--

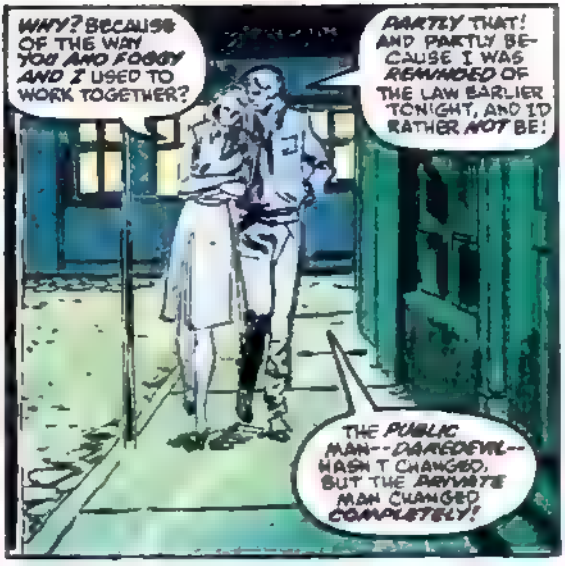
I KNOW WHAT YOU MEANT WATT! AND THAT'S WHAT I ANSWERED!
I DON'T WANT JUNK ANY MORE! AND I DON'T WANT FRIED BANANAS, EITHER!

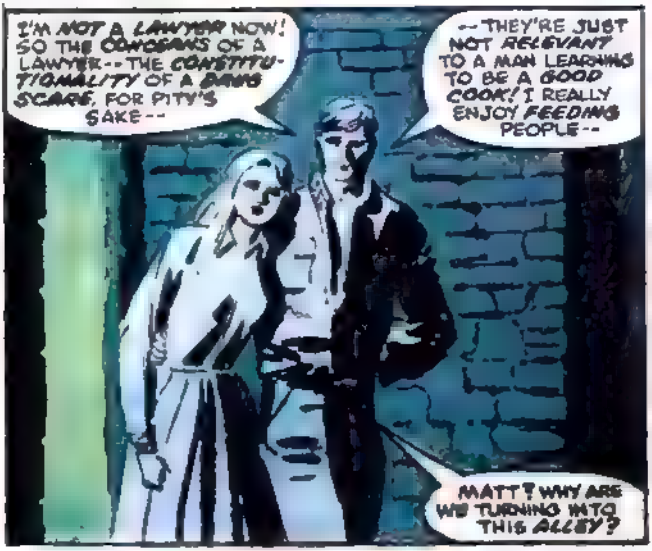

I'M FULL-- I'M WARM-- I'M HAPPY--
-- AND I'M YOURS!

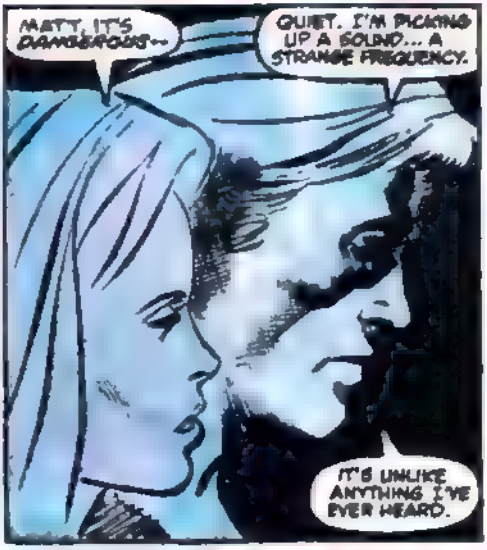

WHEN YOU TOLD ME YOU WERE DAREDEVIL A LIFETIME AGO NOW*-- I TOLD YOU I COULDN'T LIVE WITH A MAN WHO MIGHT DIE ANY TIME--
-- BUT NOW I KNOW I COULDN'T HAVE LIVED WITHOUT YOU!
KAREN, WILL YOU GET THE CHECK PLEASE?
*DD#58.--RALF.


DON'T BE SO HARD ON YOURSELF--
IT'S THE TRUTH, THOUGH: KAREN PAGE SECRETARY, TO KAREN PAGE BIT-PART ACTRESS--
-- TO KAREN THE JUNKIE-- TO--
SHHH-SHHHH!


BUT THE WHEEL HAS COME FULL CIRCLE! I'M BACK IN NEW YORK, BACK WITH YOU--
--AND STARTING TOMORROW, I'M GOING TO FIND A SECRETARIAL JOB AGAIN!
THAT'S GREAT! GOOD FOR YOU!
JUST DO ME ONE FAVOR, THOUGH! STAY OUT OF LAWYERS' OFFICES!

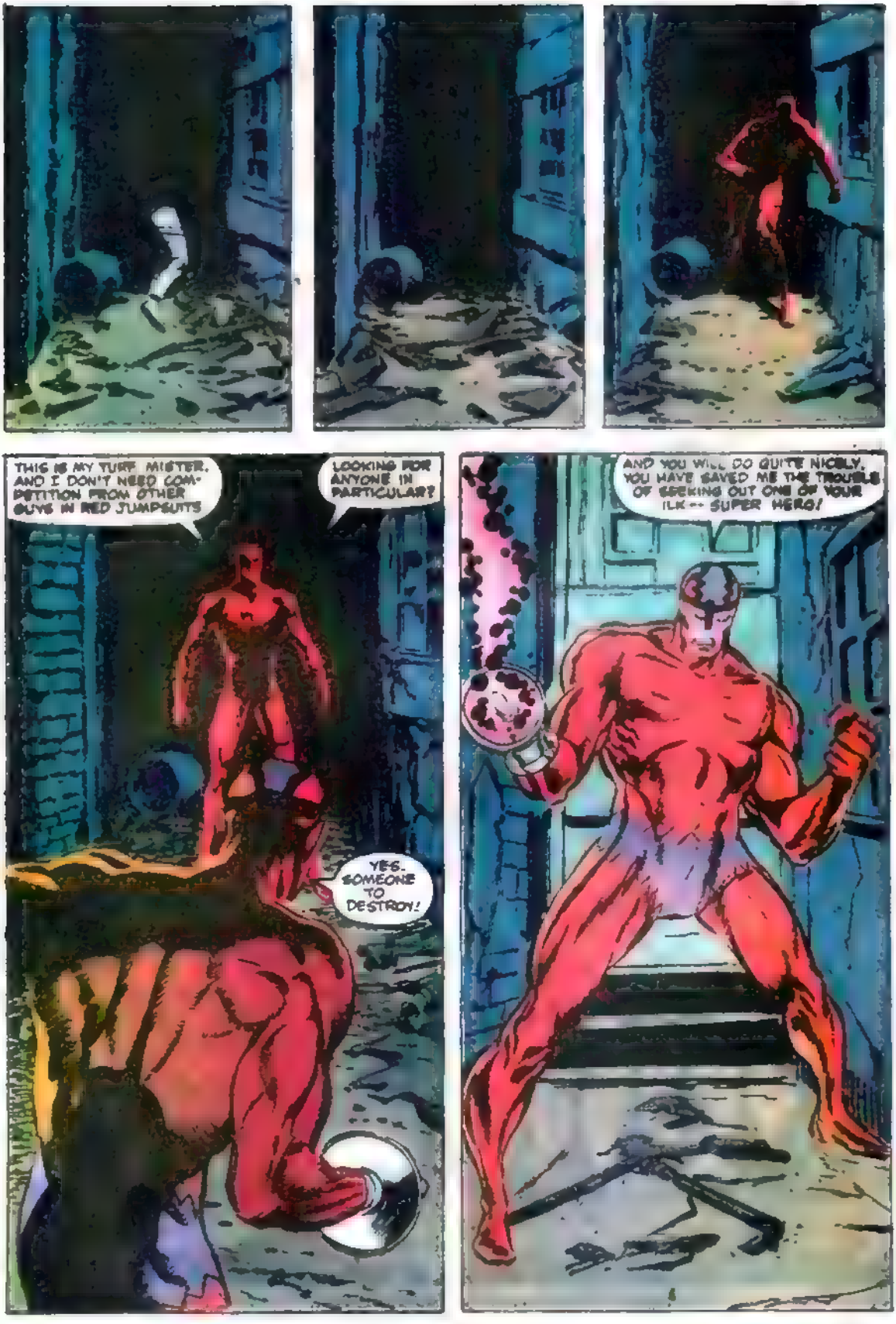

WHY? BECAUSE OF THE WAY YOU AND FOGGY AND I USED TO WORK TOGETHER?
PARTLY THAT! AND PARTLY BECAUSE I WAS REMINDED OF THE LAW EARLIER TONIGHT, AND I'D RATHER NOT BE!
THE PUBLIC MAN--DAREDEVIL--HASN'T CHANGED, BUT THE PRIVATE MAN CHANGED COMPLETELY!


I'M NOT A LAWYER NOW! SO THE CONCERNS OF A LAWYER--THE CONSTITUTIONALITY OF A BAIL SCARE, FOR PITY'S SAKE--
--THEY'RE JUST NOT RELEVANT TO A MAN LEARNING TO BE A GOOD COOK! I REALLY ENJOY FEEDING PEOPLE--
MATT? WHY ARE WE TURNING INTO THIS ALLEY?


MATT, IT'S DANGEROUS--
QUIET. I'M PICKING UP A SOUND... A STRANGE FREQUENCY.
IT'S UNLIKE ANYTHING I'VE EVER HEARD.

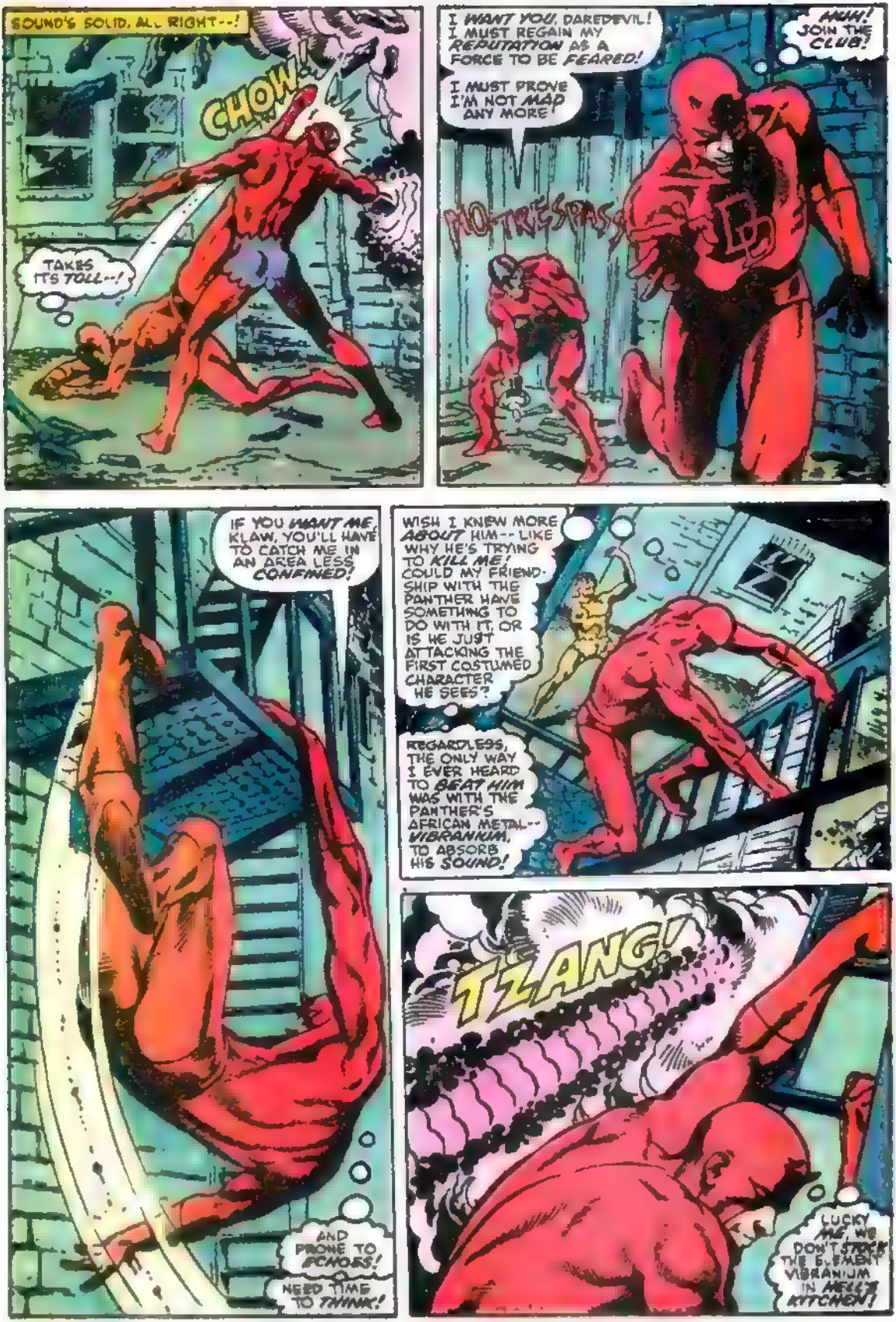
I DON'T HEAR ANYTHING--!
ABOUT A HUNDRED YARDS BEHIND US WAS ANOTHER TEN SECONDS-- "THEM RUN!"

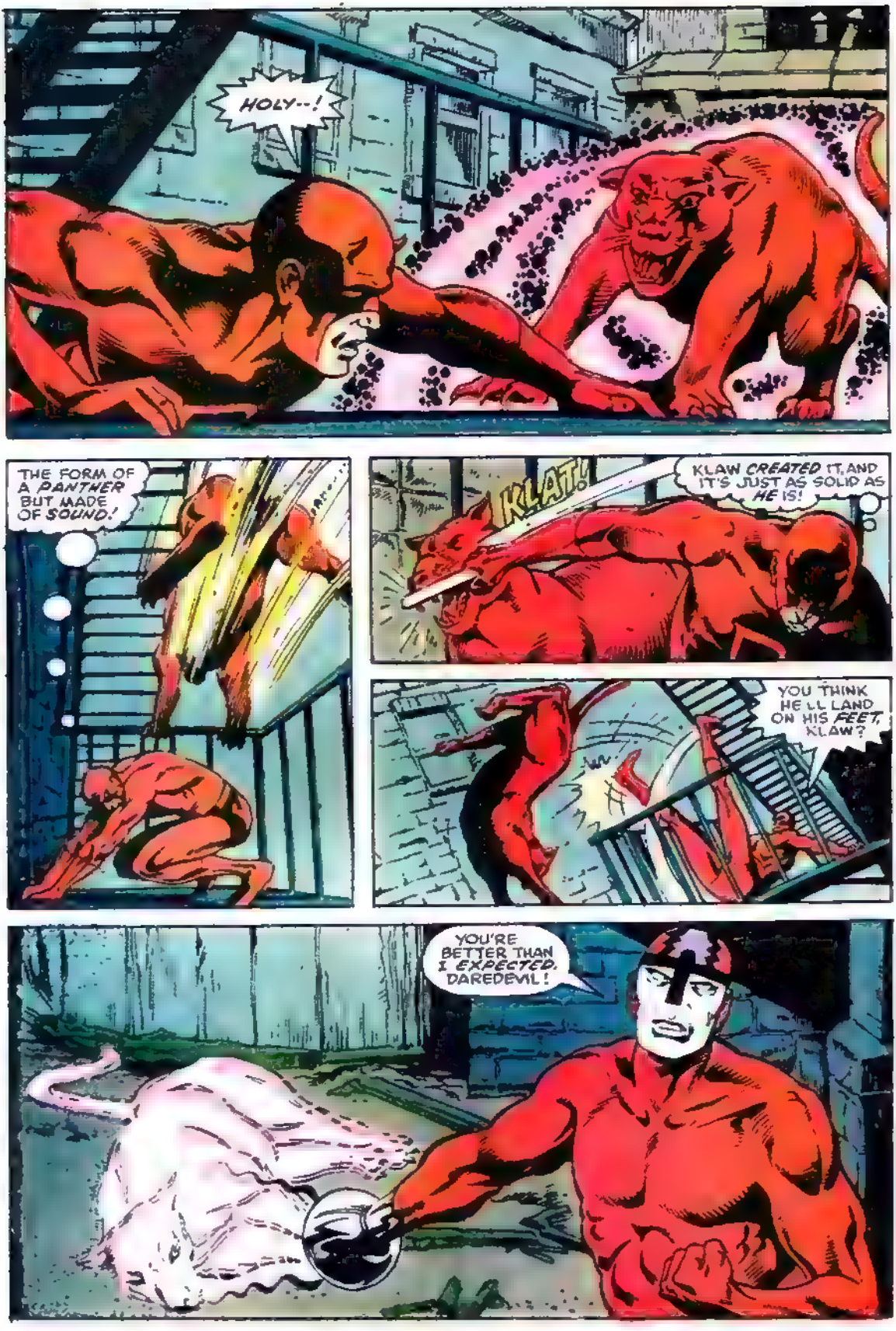
DON'T WORRY!

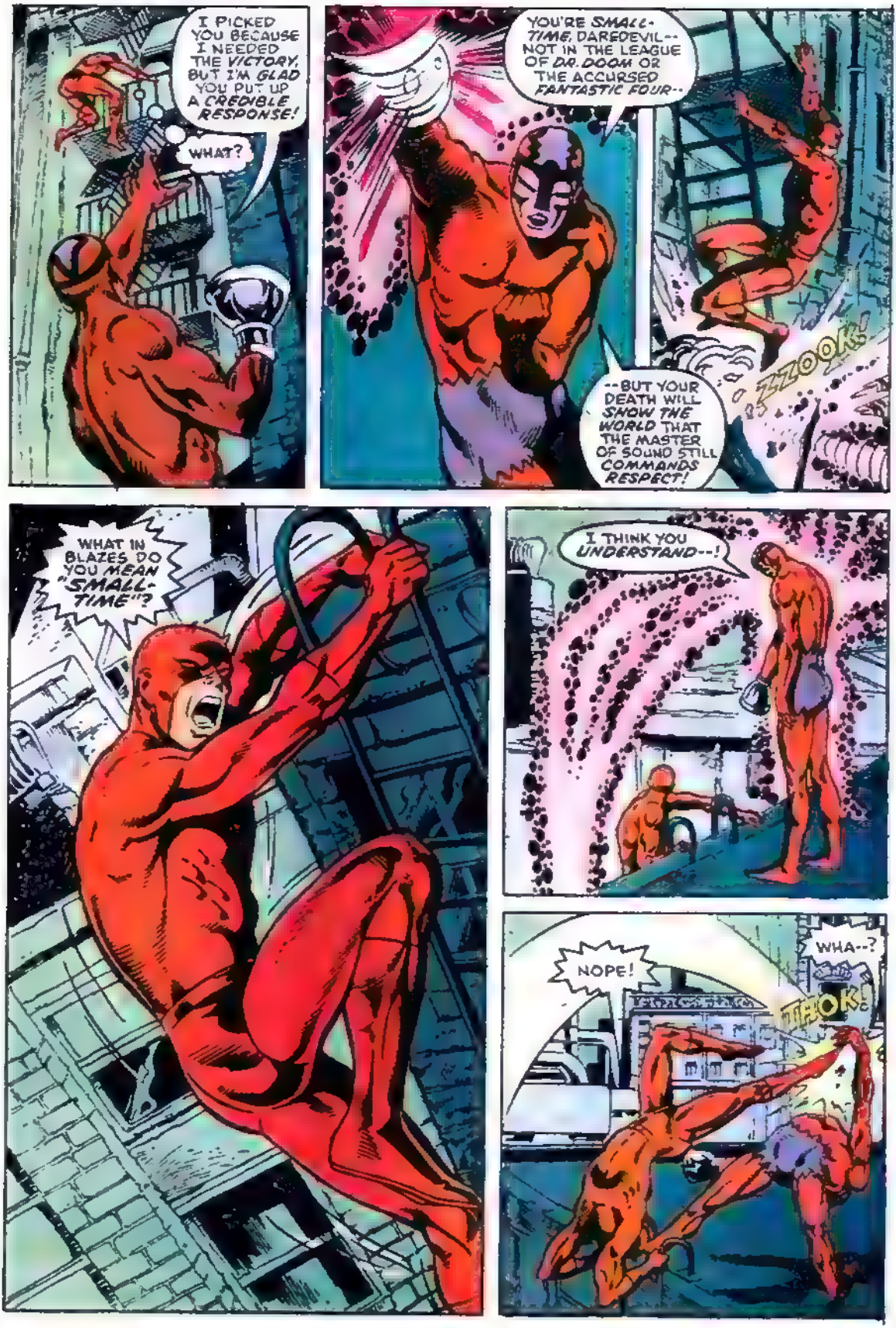

THIS IS MY TURF, MISTER. AND I DON'T NEED COMPETITION FROM OTHER GUYS IN RED JUMPSUITS
LOOKING FOR ANYONE IN PARTICULAR?
YES. SOMEONE TO DESTROY!
AND YOU WILL DO QUITE NICELY. YOU HAVE SAVED ME THE TROUBLE OF SEEKING OUT ONE OF YOUR ILK -- SUPER HERO!

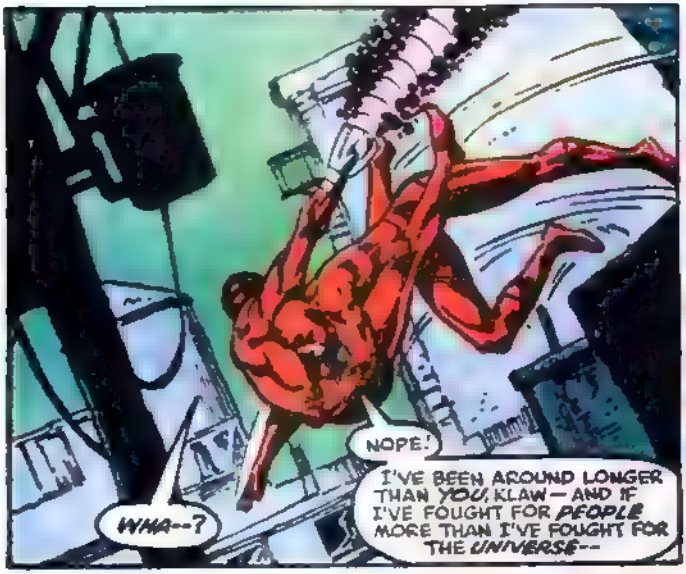
YOU MUST BE KLAW--THE MASTER OF SOUND*!
YOU'VE HEARD OF ME?
I'VE--HEARD YOU!
*KLAW WAS ORIGINALLY AN ENEMY OF THE AFRICAN CHIEFTAIN--THE BLACK PANTHER. AND THE PANTHER IS AN OLD BUDDY OF OUR MAN WITHOUT FEAR. RALF.
THE BLACK PANTHER DESCRIBED KLAW TO ME. HE'S BEEN ON SOME MISSION OF REVENGE AGAINST THE PANTHER FOR YEARS. BUT RECENTLY, HE DISAPPEARED.
HE IS VAST POWER--SOLIDIFIED SOUND--MADE FLESH!
I HAVE BEEN DESTROYED, DAREDEVIL! ALL MY POWER PERVERTED!
THE BEYONDER*--INHABITED ME--! BUT THEN, WHEN HE HAD NO FURTHER USE FOR ME, HE RETURNED ME TO EARTH--WHOLE AGAIN.
*BE THERE A MARVELITE ANYWHERE WHO HASN'T HEARD OF THIS ALL-POWERFUL ENTITY FROM OUR RECENT SECRET WARS SERIES? HE THOUGHT NOT. -R.
KLAW RISING!
AND LET THE WORLD BEWARE!
ZZZOW!

SO LOUD!
BLESS YOU, MY OLD MENTOR-- STICK! YOU MADE IT BEARABLE!
YOU MADE ME BEARABLE!
SOUNDS SOLID ALL RIGHT!
PZTTT!
POK!
I CAN--
FIKH!
AARGH
GNNGHH


SOUND'S SOLID, ALL RIGHT--!
CHOW!
TAKES ITS TOLL--!
I WANT YOU, DAREDEVIL! I MUST REGAIN MY REPUTATION AS A FORCE TO BE FEARED!
I MUST PROVE I'M NOT MAD ANY MORE!
MUH! JOIN THE CLUB!
NO TRESPASS
IF YOU WANT ME, KLAW, YOU'LL HAVE TO CATCH ME IN AN AREA LESS CONFINED!
AND PRONE TO ECHOES!
NEED TIME TO THINK!
WISH I KNEW MORE ABOUT HIM-- LIKE WHY HE'S TRYING TO KILL ME! COULD MY FRIENDSHIP WITH THE PANTHER HAVE SOMETHING TO DO WITH IT, OR IS HE JUST ATTACKING THE FIRST COSTUMED CHARACTER HE SEES?
REGARDLESS, THE ONLY WAY I EVER HEARD TO BEAT HIM WAS WITH THE PANTHER'S AFRICAN METAL-- VIBRANIUM, TO ABSORB HIS SOUND!
TZANG!
LUCKY ME WE DON'T STOCK THE ELEMENT VIBRANIUM IN HELL'S KITCHEN!


HOLY--!
THE FORM OF A PANTHER BUT MADE OF SOUND!
KLAT!
KLAW CREATED IT, AND IT'S JUST AS SOLID AS HE IS!
YOU THINK HE'LL LAND ON HIS FEET, KLAW?
YOU'RE BETTER THAN I EXPECTED, DAREDEVIL!

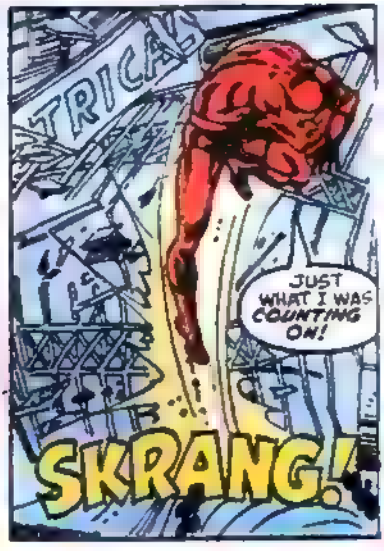

I PICKED YOU BECAUSE I NEEDED THE VICTORY, BUT I'M GLAD YOU PUT UP A CREDIBLE RESPONSE!
WHAT?
YOU'RE SMALL-TIME, DAREDEVIL-- NOT IN THE LEAGUE OF DR. DOOM OR THE ACCURSED FANTASTIC FOUR--
--BUT YOUR DEATH WILL SHOW THE WORLD THAT THE MASTER OF SOUND STILL COMMANDS RESPECT!
ZZOOK!
WHAT IN BLAZES DO YOU MEAN "SMALL-TIME"?
I THINK YOU UNDERSTAND--!
NOPE!
WHA--?
THOK!

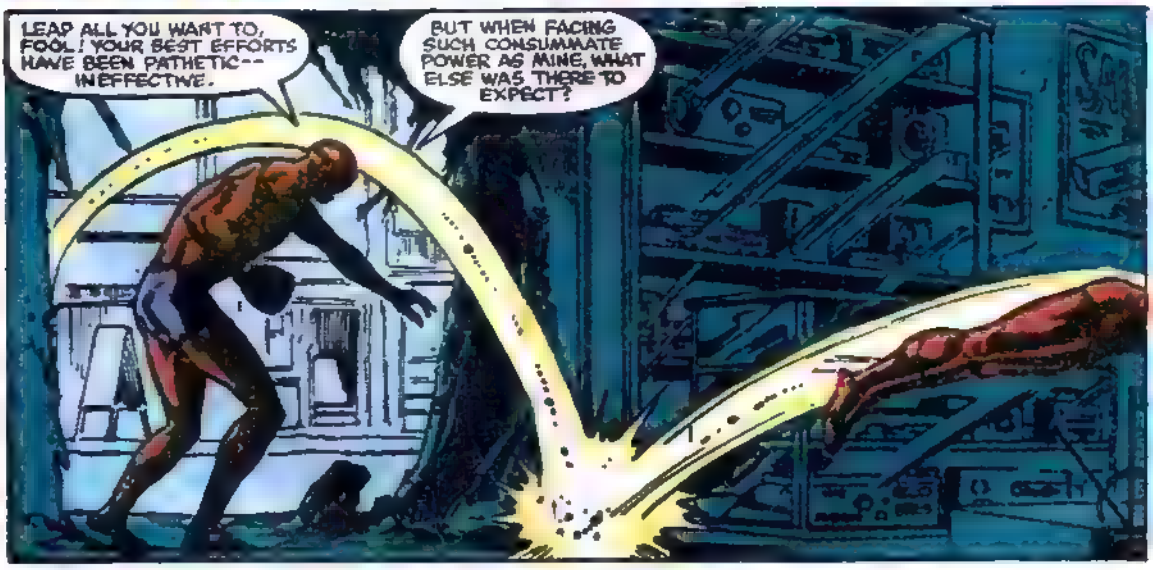

WHA--?
NOPE!
I'VE BEEN AROUND LONGER THAN YOU, KLAW — AND IF I'VE FOUGHT FOR PEOPLE MORE THAN I'VE FOUGHT FOR THE UNIVERSE--

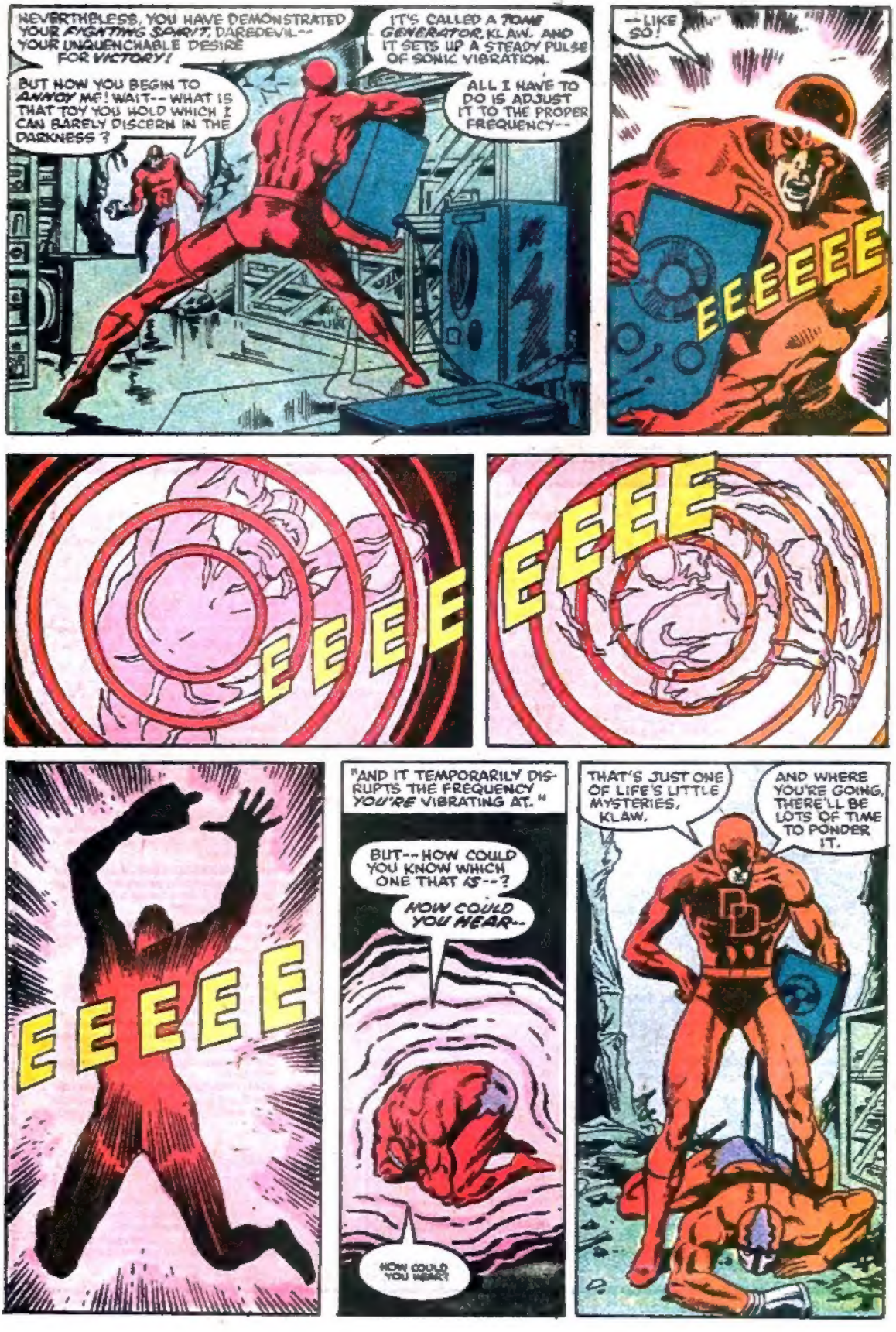
--THERE'S ONLY ONE UNIVERSE, BUT BILLIONS OF PEOPLE!

SPAASK!

AND IF YOU'RE SO BIG-TIME, HOW COME YOU CAN'T HIT ME?
KLAW DOESN'T DEAL IN PRECISION! HE DEALS IN POWER!


JUST WHAT I WAS COUNTING ON!
SKRANG!


LEAP ALL YOU WANT TO, FOOL! YOUR BEST EFFORTS HAVE BEEN PATHETIC-- INEFFECTIVE.
BUT WHEN FACING SUCH CONSUMMATE POWER AS MINE, WHAT ELSE WAS THERE TO EXPECT?


NEVERTHELESS, YOU HAVE DEMONSTRATED YOUR FIGHTING SPIRIT, DAREDEVIL-- YOUR UNQUENCHABLE DESIRE FOR VICTORY!
BUT NOW YOU BEGIN TO ANNOY ME! WAIT-- WHAT IS THAT TOY YOU HOLD WHICH I CAN BARELY DISCERN IN THE DARKNESS?
IT'S CALLED A TONE GENERATOR, KLAW. AND IT SETS UP A STEADY PULSE OF SONIC VIBRATION.
ALL I HAVE TO DO IS ADJUST IT TO THE PROPER FREQUENCY--
--LIKE SO!
EEEEEE
EEEE
EEEE
EEEEE
"AND IT TEMPORARILY DISRUPTS THE FREQUENCY YOU'RE VIBRATING AT."
BUT--HOW COULD YOU KNOW WHICH ONE THAT IS--?
HOW COULD YOU HEAR--
HOW COULD YOU HEAR?
THAT'S JUST ONE OF LIFE'S LITTLE MYSTERIES, KLAW.
AND WHERE YOU'RE GOING, THERE'LL BE LOTS OF TIME TO PONDER IT.

--SO I KNEW WHERE TO FIND A TONE GENERATOR IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD AND I LED HIM THERE!
YOU MAKE IT SOUND SO MATTER-OF-FACT!
IT WAS, FOR ME--WITH ONE EXCEPTION!
THE NAME "DAREDEVIL" KAREN--IT'S ALWAYS MEANT TWO THINGS! ONE, THE OBVIOUS--"MAN WITHOUT FEAR"--
-- BUT TWO, THE SARCASTIC-- BECAUSE I FIRST HEARD IT USED WHEN THE OTHER KIDS TAUNTED ME, AFTER I PROMISED MY FATHER I WOULDN'T FIGHT THEM!
I CHOSE THE NAME FOR BOTH MEANINGS-- TO EXEMPLIFY THE FIRST AND PUT THE LIE TO THE SECOND--BUT I'VE HEARD IT IN MY HEAD TWO WAYS EVER SINCE--
--ONE BRIMMING WITH SELF-CONFIDENCE, THE OTHER TORN WITH SELF-DOUBT!
THE KINGPIN DROVE A WEDGE BETWEEN MY SIDES --I FELL APART--
--BUT THEN I PULLED MYSELF BACK TOGETHER! FINALLY, I HAD TO CHOOSE WHICH DAREDEVIL I WAS --AND I CHOSE NOT TO BE THE LOSER!
BUT WHAT I STILL DIDN'T REALIZE WAS THAT IN PULLING MYSELF TOGETHER, I WAS HOLDING MYSELF TOGETHER!
AND THEN TONIGHT, FIGHTING KLAW, I SAW SOMETHING! THIS--
IF I'D TRULY LOST MY SELF-DOUBT, WHY WAS I SO TIGHTLY WRAPPED? WHAT WAS THE MAN WITHOUT FEAR STILL AFRAID OF?
YOU TOLD ME THE WHEEL HAD COME FULL CIRCLE, BUT I DIDN'T REALLY UNDERSTAND YOU! I WAS SEEING THE IMMENSITY OF THE CIRCLE WE HAD TRAVELED --NOT THE IMMENSITY OF THE ONE WE JUST BEGAN!
KAREN, EVERYTHING'S FRESH NOW! I FEEL LIKE I DID WHEN I STARTED!
WE-- BOTH OF US -- ARE GETTING CLEAN, HONEY. WE-- BOTH OF US-- HAVE A SECOND CHANCE AT OUR LIVES --
--AND THIS TIME, WE'LL GET 'EM RIGHT!
THE END

DEVIL'S ADVOCATE

RALPH MACCHIO: editor — CRAIG ANDERSON: assistant editor

% MARVEL COMICS GROUP-387 Park Avenue South-New York, New York-10016

Attention correspondents: if you don't want your full address printed, please be sure to tell us so!

Dear Ralph,

DAREDEVIL #229 blew me away! This, of course, is nothing unusual because since I started reading the Miller/Mazzucchelli works of art, I've been blown away every month. This issue was exceptionally satisfying, though, because it seems that there is finally hope for Matt again. Maybe now he can get back on his feet and put the Kingpin away for good. I am anxiously awaiting the next round of the Daredevil-Kingpin fight.

The art in this issue was fantastic as usual. The writing was great, too. This combination makes DAREDEVIL a pleasure to read every month. Keep up the great work! I'm leaving now to camp out in front of the comic store to buy DAREDEVIL #230 and be blown away again.

John S. Voscamp
Houston, TX

Wow, John, thanks a lot for your kind words. We hope it doesn't hurt too much when you are blown away. We try not to injure our readers with our comics.

Dear DAREDEVIL creative team,

DAREDEVIL #229 really hurt. From the cover to the final page, it assaulted my senses with varying degrees of fear and pity. Worst of all, though, was that I was only able to watch helplessly while Matt's life went uncontrollably down the tubes. By seeing all of this, I am firmly convinced that Frank Miller is one of the premiere writers in current comicdom. I am truly looking forward to next issue.

Astro Ortan
Somewhere in Kentucky

Dear guys,

The difference between a good comic and a great comic is whether or not the supporting characters can carry the book for at least one issue without the star.

What does this make DAREDEVIL? Outstanding! I sometimes want to read the book for the supporting characters more than for Matt. Just avoid putting Foggy in a skin-tight suit, okay? That would worry me.

James C. Taylor
429 West Ave.
Elyria, OH 44035

Thanks for your comments, James. But hey, don't worry about Foggy. We don't think that he would look too good in Daredevil's costume either.

Dear Frank and Dave,

I've just read DAREDEVIL #229 and I felt immediately compelled to write. I can't really describe what I'm feeling right now. Sadness and joy are both running through me simultaneously. No comic has ever made me feel this way before. You guys should all give yourselves pats on the back for a job well done.

Since the whole saga began, I have felt increasingly worse for Daredevil. I must admit that it is hardly pleasurable to sit down and read about the destruction of one of your favorite heroes, but the masterful way that it was presented by Frank Miller and David Mazzucchelli made it worthwhile.

While reading this issue, I was hoping that Daredevil's plight would finally take a turn for the better. This hope has now been answered with the nun finding Daredevil at the end of the story. It is hard to describe the happiness that I felt at this point. It makes me even more anxious for the next issue to come out.

I now fear for Karen's well-being, though. I hope that she can somehow get out of the situation that she is presently in. See what you can do, okay guys? You are doing a great job with the book. Thank you for making my trip to the comic store every month especially worthwhile.

Kelly Macnamara
Cleveland, OH

Dear Frank, Dave, Max, Joe and Ralph,

I have just finished reading DAREDEVIL #229 and find myself very depressed over poor Matt's life. It appears that he is hurt, mentally lost, and considered a pariah. Why doesn't he go to Peter Parker instead of wandering around aimlessly. Peter needs the company and Matt needs the sympathy. Is Matt's life going to be spiritually cleansed soon? I certainly hope so. It would only increase the originality of DAREDEVIL.

Mark Lamont
2025 McKenzie Ave.
Comox, B.C., CANADA

Well, Mark, you can see now that Matt has been spiritually cleansed. As to your other point, check out AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #277. Peter does actually go to visit Matt in this issue. See if you can get your hands on it.

Dear Sirs,

When I was about four years old, my mother bought me a comic to keep me quiet during a shopping trip in downtown Providence, Rhode Island. I immediately started reading it. The comic was FANTASTIC FOUR #1, and I was completely enthralled by it.

It has been twenty-five years, and my association with comics has waxed and waned and now, after a twelve-year hiatus, seems to be waxing again. I am glad that I have returned to the realm of comics. You seem to be in a new golden age, and I'm glad to be part of it.

I have a list of about ten favorite books in the realm of novels which directly affect the human heart and mind. These books hold up the worth of human beings, and show courage in the face of adversity. One title will be dropped from that list to make room for the set of DAREDEVILs which comprise the current battle of good vs. evil between Daredevil and the Kingpin. I have already given the reading of this series to my students as an extra credit course in my classes.

Not to mention the unpleasantries in my personal life of the past year, suffice it to say that I read DAREDEVIL #229 at a time when I couldn't need light reading more. Yet, as seems always the case with a truly fine creative work, at some point you realize that the thing which sets it apart from the ordinary is its ability to be great without your noticing it immediately.

The previous issues leading up to the latest one were all very good, if depressing. They all showed the Kingpin as a powerful and awesome, yet lonely and tragic man. He is the embodiment of the implacable foe, his greatest pleasure in life being the reduction of other human beings to his level, that of the moral cipher.

Daredevil's disintegration and bewilderment, horrible though they were, could be seen at least partly as the cause of his own inability to ask for help. He does have a lot of pride, but he really should find some way to help himself. The ending of the story showed his salvation. Of that, I am happy.

Good men are more easily destroyed than broken, and nothing good every really dies. This is what lent the sweet and overpowering sense of rebirth to the final line: ". . . That a man without hope, is a man without fear." I have read nothing in comics, and few things anywhere else, that affected me as strongly as did that. I have read quite a lot, too, thank you.

I hope very much that DAREDEVIL remains at its current level of excellence. In the last ten lines of the story, you showed your greatness. Your story rings with the sound of a background orchestra, and it puts every other crime story to shame. Best of all, though, it makes Daredevil not only the kind of man that you would like to meet, but the kind you can almost expect to see swing by, out of the corner of your eye. It reminds us that the world is full of Daredevils and Matt Murdocks, and people like them. And Kingpins, too, one must admit, but there is little doubt as to the preferable company. Thank you.

Don Hawthorne
(No address given)

Thanks for your comments, Don. For a different look at good and evil and how they can pull at a person's soul, check out ELEKTRA, a 6-issue Limited Series from EPIC COMICS. It's written by Frank Miller and painted by Bill Sienkiewicz, so you know it's going to be an intense graphic experience! And it's on sale now at your favorite comics shop!

BEAST CHARMING
Personally purveying a plenitude of pretty, prettified pictures to my peerless pals!
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